Individual differences is the reason why there is a need to incorporate various learning activities, since there is no single formula that could ensure every student will be able to have a meaningful learning using a single strategy.

This important matter on the individual differences of the students encourages the teachers to have an inventory of learners’ learning preferences and interest. Being aware of the interest and learning preferences of the students will be beneficial for us to better prepare the activities that will be more suitable to their needs.

In the traditional school, the differences on the learning styles of the students was not given enough attention, that is why meaningful learning does not totally took place to all. In the dictum of Albert Einstein, one of the great scientist and mathematician he pronounced that “Every child is a genius but if judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid”. These words of Einstein explained the need to provide a suitable activity to every student since there is what we called Multiple intelligences as introduced by Howard Garner.

Gardner’s theory on multiple intelligences gives us the idea that every individual is intelligent. The Multiple intelligences were compose of Verbal/ Linguistic Learners, Spatial Learners, Logical Mathematical learners, Interpersonal Learners, Musical Learners, body kinesthetic learners and naturalistic learners. Having these different types intelligences that might be possess by our students leads us to have a differentiated instruction that allows students to revealed and enhanced their respective talents and abilities
Truly, our students are genius in their respective abilities, in school we need to strengthen their strength as well as their weaknesses. This idea was took place in the K-12 curriculum where the students in the senior high school was able to choose their corresponding tracks and strand aligned with their skills and interest.

Senior High School students has the freedom to choose their area of specialization, this ensure that their field of study is beneficial and relevant to their need and abilities. This is very beneficial not only to the student but to their teachers as well because of the freedom to choose the tracks and strands they want to pursue there is an assurance that majority of the students are inclined and interested to learn. In this sense, there is intrinsic motivation where the students are motivated not by the external factor by their desire to learn.

The theory or principle of multiple intelligences and individual differences must always be the reminder to every teacher that every student is unique and they can excel in the highest level if we could just provide the needed instructional support.

Reference: